the HAKER HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL
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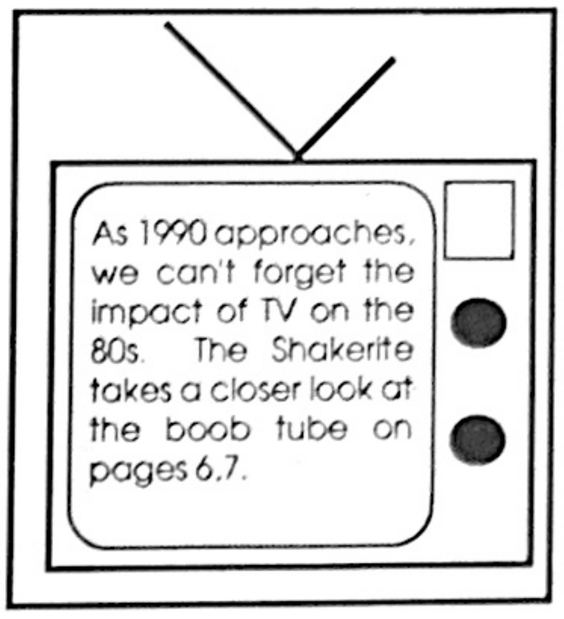


English

Department incorporates more writing exercises into English curriculum

BY JILL PELAVIN
Staff Reporter

In order to emphasize writing skills, the English department has approved new alterations to its curriculum.

The policy change calls for more frequent writing in English classes.

"[The new policy] is a goal for teachers to find ways to involve students in weekly writing and for students to become better writers," English department head Bill Newby said.

Newby added that the students will not necessarily be evaluated on each writing assignment.

"There are a variety of ways to involve students in writing rather than one complete piece of writing being finished and evaluated," Newby said.

Newby believes an increase in the amount of writing will be beneficial to the students.

"Anticipation may cause [initial] student resistance, but from personal experience, it will enable students to become better thinkers and be creative," Newby said. "It is a good tool to pull together various thoughts that will crystallize and organize what they have learned."

Despite the absence of a concrete policy before this statement, several teachers said they gave writing assignments to their students at least weekly.

"My classes usually write twice a week, but the writing policy is nice to have to express to parents and remind me I am supposed to have my students write," English teacher Rosemary Merchant said.

> *[Writing] is a good tool to pull together various thoughts that will crystallize and organize what [the students] have learned."*
> –DR. BILL NEWBY

Some students said that they are not presently receiving enough writing assignments in English class.

"I do not feel that we do enough writing," sophomore Josh Moskowitz said. "English is not only reading books and taking meaningless multiple choice tests."

Most students, however, believe that the amount of writing in their English classes is adequate.

"In my class, we do not do an overload of writing. However, when we do write, it challenges us to try to understand the topic that we are writing on," junior Cindy Donohoe said. "I like it that way because we do not have the work piled on us, but we are challenged by the topics of the writing we do."

Sophomore Rachel Lowenthal also voices a similar opinion.

"In my English class, we have only done two essays the entire year, but I feel that I am learning enough about structured writing," Lowenthal said. "More time should be spent discussing ideas and books."

Senior Nikki Tolliver said that there is a need for a change in the writing curriculum, but that more than the quantity of writing should be considered by the department..

"Shaker is a good school system, but it needs to teach better writing skills," Tolliver said. "You have to learn how to write before you give more writing assignments."

RECYCLE

CLEARING UP THE MESS. Shaker Heights Service Department employee Robert Stiem empties out a resident's trash into Steim's garbage scooter. See page 2 to learn about the city's plans to increase recycling.
Photo by Evan Weinstein

Wait 'til it comes out on tape . . . 8 / Snowed in . . . 9 / Slick on the ice . . . 12

City aims to relieve landfill overflow

BY JENNIFER FRIEDMAN
Staff Reporter

A solid waste recycling pilot program, developed by the Shaker Heights Service Department and Public Service Committee, will be implemented in February of 1990 as part of a six month trial.

The program was developed in accordance with current state legislation, a new statewide solid waste management plan. The plan requires that 25 percent of the solid waste from city garbage collections be removed by June of 1994.

Cuyahoga County has been selected by the state as a solid waste management district, responsible for addressing the waste problems in Cleveland and its surrounding area.

The landfills in this area are being filled rapidly and are expected to be completely filled within the next two to three years at the current rate, said Assistant to the Director of Public Service Andrew Krawczyk.

"Recognizing that the landfills are extremely full, we must try to extend their lives and use them more efficiently," Krawczyk said. "We need more control over what is being put in."

Krawczyk said that the pilot program will provide this control. He added that the city is taking a unique approach in their recycling program.

"If this program works, Shaker will be one of the first cities in the nation to use backyard pickup," said Kim Somody, secretary to the Director of Public Service. "We do not want to have trash sitting out on the tree lawns."

"Because we are proud of our backyard trash collection, we want to incorporate it into [the recycling program]," Krawczyk added.

Initially, 20 percent of Shaker residents, representing various areas in the city, will be involved in the program.

In complying with the program, participating residents will store glass, aluminum and newsprint in separate bags to be picked up on the residents' normal garbage day. These items will be transferred from the municipal service center to independent recyclers.

Somody said it will be left up to the residents to separate their trash for recycling.

"There are no incentives; [the program] is strictly on a voluntary basis," Somody said.

After the six month trial period, resident participation will be evaluated and cost projections will be analyzed to determine the feasibility of implementing the program on a citywide basis, possibly within the next year.

City planners will also examine problems that might arise with material handling and storage.

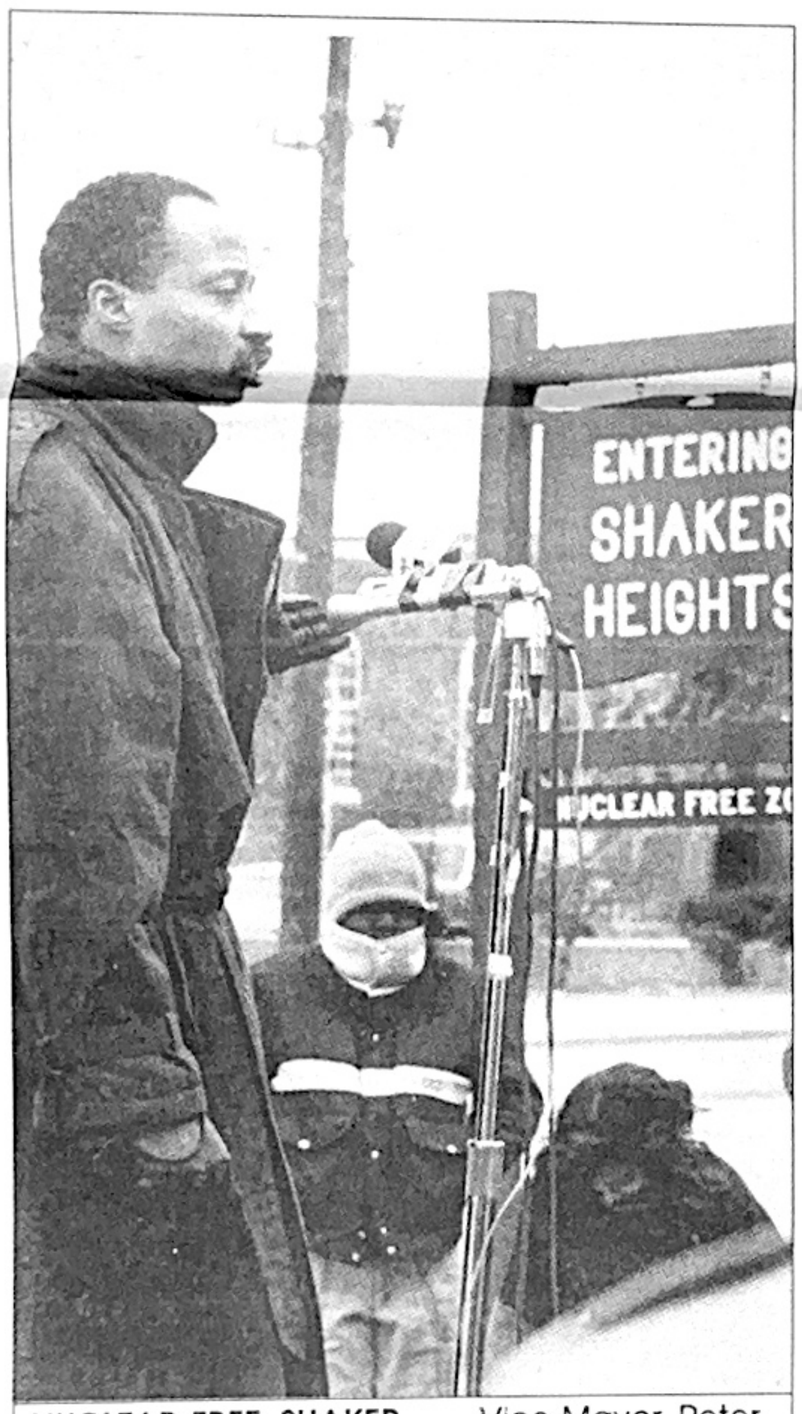
"We can sit behind a desk and do all the thinking, all the planning and all the engineering we want," Krawczyk said, "but what goes on out in the field is what counts."

In addition to the pilot recycling program, the service department will expand the hours of the drop-off recycling center and will also begin accepting plastic milk jugs and soda bottles.

The center, located at 15600 Chagrin Blvd., is currently in operation the second and fourth Saturday of each month. Beginning in February, the center will be open every Saturday.

'People of Color' inspires student production,

Key Club formed, M.L.K. Day to be celebrated, Pledge policy recommended for adoption



NUCLEAR-FREE SHAKER. Vice-Mayor Peter Lawson-Jones speaks at a Dec. 7 ceremony in which the first sign proclaiming Shaker a nuclear free zone was unveiled. The city recently passed legislation making the transportation or storing of nuclear weapons and nuclear waste in Shaker a crime, punishable by city law. The sign, pictured in the background, is located at Chagrin Boulevard and Menlo Road.

Photo by Annette Croom.

THE BRIEFS

Inspired by the 1988 senior project production "People of Color," several students are working on an updated version, tentatively titled, "Wiping Away the Tears: Black Pride Throughout the Years."

Though the new production will be completely different from the 1988 version, senior director Jennifer Bliss said that the basic theme of Black History will remain.

The production is scheduled for Mar. 23 and 24.

According to Bliss, any money left over from the play will go toward future Black History productions.

KEY CLUB FORMED

Promoting community service and student leadership, seniors Susannah Gunter and Mark Notash have created a Key Club at the high school.

"The Key Club is a high school organization designed to give students an opportunity to serve their community and to develop leadership skills," Gunter said.

The club is advised by science teacher Mark Hoskins.

According to Gunter, the idea of establishing a Key Club was encouraged by Hoskins and Principal Jack Rumbaugh.

Meetings are held Thursdays after school in room 177 and are open to all students.

KING DAY TO BE CELEBRATED

A celebration of the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is scheduled for Jan. 11 at Heights Christian Church, located on Van Aken Boulevard.

The First Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Award for Human Relations will be presented at the ceremony.

Speaking will be Executive Director of the National Office on Race Relations Rev. Dr. Benjamin Chavis, Jr.

In addition, the Shaker Heights A capella Choir will perform at the ceremony.

PLEDGE POLICY CLOSE TO ADOPTION

The school board held its third and final reading of its proposed policy regarding the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, and has recommended the policy's adoption.

The policy encourages the daily recitation of the Pledge, though it would not be a requirement.

"In the conduct of ceremonies and observances, each student's religious and first amendment rights will be respected," the policy states. "Students who legitimately exercise their rights shall not interfere with the conduct of the ceremonies and observances."

—COMPILED FROM STAFF REPORTS—

CALENDAR:

DECEMBER
14 Choir/Orchestra Concert - 7:30 p.m.
15 Winter Recess begins at end of school day
16 Shaker Speech/Debate Tournament

JANUARY
2 Schools Open
6-7 M.L.K. Performing Arts Show
10 Parents' Financial Aid Program - 7:30 p.m.
11 M.L.K. Celebration (A Cappella Choir)
15 Martin Luther King Day - No School
23 Final Exams: Mathematics/English
24 Final Exams: Social Studies/Science
25 Final Exams: Language/Make-ups
25 "Evening of Jazz" (S.H.M.S.) - 7:30 p.m.
26 End of 1st Semester - No School
27 SAT/ACH - 8:00 a.m.
29 2nd Semester begins

FEBRUARY
1 Parents' Program Planning - 7:30 p.m.
2 Report Cards Distributed
5-9 Excel Week

Parents continue to address gang issues

BY JEREMY KAHN
Staff Reporter

A parent group created in early November for the purpose of ending gang related violence has continued to meet with the administration in order to address gang issues. "We've been very successful. We've been able to mobilize a number of parents and address the gang issue," said Dr. Reginald Blue, Shaker's Director of Pupil Personnel Services and a parent involved in the support group.

The parents, administration and the police have been almost 100 percent effective in ending the gang problems at Shaker, according to Principal Jack Rumbaugh and parents involved in the support network. But, the gangs and their violence are just a symptom of a different root problem, according to Rumbaugh.

> *"We've talked about parents attending more school functions and being more visible throughout the school to keep things from escalating."*
>
> –DR. REGINALD BLUE

"Deep sociological issues have to be discussed," said Rumbaugh. According to Rumbaugh, these sociological problems include the issues of self-esteem, the gang mind set, and positive role models for the gang members.

Rumbaugh has met several times with Superintendent Mark Freeman and at least once with the parents to discuss these issues. The parents and the administration believe that these problems are at the root of the gang problem.

"We must address what the gang issue portents for the Shaker schools," said Dr. Blue. These issues are being discussed with school officials and the parents are working to keep the situation within the school calm, according to Dr. Blue.

The administration has had trouble finding an expert on gangs to help dealing with the reasons for the gang problems at Shaker, according to Rumbaugh.

"There is really no expert on this topic in the Cleveland area," said Rumbaugh. "A lot of what we are going to do will involve our own staff here at the high school."

The parents attended a meeting with gang facilitator Charles See, an expert on gangs from Detroit, on Nov. 12 and have met in committee to discuss the gang issue, according to Rumbaugh.

Joan Hill, another parent involved in the group, said the parents have plans to meet at least once a month if not more frequently and to take a more active role in the school.

"We've talked about parents attending more school functions, and being more visible throughout the school to keep things from escalating," Dr. Blue said.

The administration fully supports the parents' plans to take a more active role.

"Kids, parents, teachers and administrators working together is what makes Shaker the best," Rumbaugh said. "The more we work together the better the schools become."

Towne Center update. . .

Shaker tenants react to redevelopment

BY TANIA MENESSE
Staff Reporter

Tenants of the ten buildings at the north end of Chagrin between Avalon and Lee, have been given until Dec. 31 to vacate their store space. The demolition of the buildings is scheduled to begin in March of 1990 after all asbestos is removed from the buildings. Construction itself will begin the following April and should be finished by late 1990.

When the project is finished, the whole area will be changed, not simply reconstructed, said Rosemary Herple of the City Division of Public Affairs.

With the exception of the two anchor stores, Heinen's and Shaker Hardware, and possibly Revco, the Towne Center will project a completely new image and landscape.

According to Herple, both Heinens and Shaker Hardware will remain open at the west end of Lee until the new stores are ready to open.

Plans for Revco will be finalized within the next few weeks.

Herple said that the variety of new businesses in the completed Towne Center will be more appealing to residents than the existing ones.

"The stores that are there right now do not draw Shaker residents from all over the community. The tenants of the Center will be decided upon by Chase properties according to the marketing needs of the city," Herple said.

According to city planner Philip Heintzleman, the existing properties have been aquired by the city under the threat of eminent domain. Eminent domain gives the city the authority by law to purchase privately owned property at a reasonable price so that it can be improved for public use. "The city has been exceptionally cooperative and supportive all the way," Stuart Kline of Chase Properties said.

"Eight of the ten properties have been sold to the city. Owners have been pretty cooperative, and we see no problem with following our plan," Herple said.

CHANGES. Although Heinen's, pictured above, and Shaker Hardware will remain open at the west end of Lee Road during the development of the Shaker Towne Center, other tenants of the Chagrin-Lee-Avalon area are being forced to shut down or relocate. Construction will begin in April and is scheduled for completion in late 1990.

Photo by Brenda Johnson.

> *We are losing a neighborhood that you just can't replace. It is not an issue of the old buildings and stores; it is the people who will suffer."*
>
> –MARIE WALZER

Thriftique II was one property aquired by eminent domain in an agreement between Chagrin-Lee Enterprises, Inc. and the city, according to Marie Walzer, vice president of the store.

Chagrin-Lee Enterprises, Inc. represents the landlords of the building's tenants.

"[Chagrin-Lee Enterprises] was really given no choice," Walzer said. "Sure, they were compensated for the land and buildings with $1.1 million, but there is no way to tell how much we have all lost in the business itself."

Those involved in the project say the use of eminent domain was justified.

"[Eminent domain was used] to be sure there were no on going leases after Dec. 31, and so there would be no legal problems," project coordinator David Hartt said.

Some tenants feel however that after so many years of service the city has treated them unfairly. "The city excluded us in the master agreement with the developer that said there could be no *resale shops or 24 hour operations in the Towne Center," Walzer said.*

Walzer added that the city gave her little time to consider the move.

"Thriftique II has been in business for 53 years, and we were given only 30 days notice to move out," Walzer said. "They promised us that we could stay until March of 1990 and now they have simply just changed their minds."

The city and the developers have prepared new guidelines for the Towne Center based on the types and sizes of the store. These new guidelines, together with higher rents, are forcing many stores to relocate or shut down.

Hartt admitted that tenants will pay more rent, but said that store space will also be increased.

Several long-standing tenants of the acquisitioned buildings feel that the Towne Center will diminish the community spirit of the city.

"We are losing a neighborhood that you just can't replace," Walzer said, "It is not an issue of the of the old buildings and stores; it is the people who will suffer."

Included among the people who will suffer are the tenants of the buildings.

Toni Jackson, manager of the Kinsman-Lee Bowling Lanes said," I have worked here for thirteen years. I raised a son on this job and now am looking at the prospect of being unemployed when the bowling alley closes in July."

Employees of Revco, on the other hand, will not be losing their jobs, said its manager, Sam Carcioppolo.

"If anything, there will be more jobs because the store will be bigger," Carcioppolo said. The city's plan indicates that the project will be complete at this time next year. The projected cost of the project is $7.5 million.

"In six months we will see how much it really costed," Walzer said. "Nobody can predict the future — there are just too many variables."

Five-paragraph essay develops essential skills

We enthusiastically support the English department's new weekly writing policy. However, we are concerned about the possible de-emphasis of the five-paragraph essay in favor of a new approach to writing instruction.

Some teachers favor a more personal style of writing, rejecting the structured nature of the five-paragraph.

We hopethe five-paragraph essay will not lose its place at the center of high school English instruction. This type of writing prepares students for research papers required in college and serves as the means of communication in the adult world. There may be different ways to learn clear expression, but we find the five-paragraph to be most effective.

THE RITE IDEA

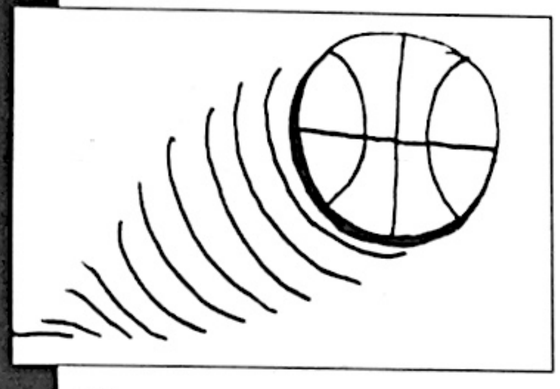
Scholars are currently in the midst of a debate concerning the most effective way to teach students how to express themselves with the written word. Some argue that drilling students with traditional grammar and essay techniques are necessary. Others counter that students must learn to clearly express their ideas before compositions can improve, and the expository essay's formula is too limiting, especially for the student who does not enjoy writing.

Expository writing, we believe, is a skill in which all students should develop some proficiency. The five paragraph essay develops analytical thinking, the ability to use evidence to prove a point and skill in clearly expressing oneself.

Still, other types of writing have their place, allowing a student to explore different ways of expression. Since not all of the "free" writing will be for a grade, students will hopefully be encouraged to discover their own personal voice.

Each individual learns in a different way and the English department's policy allows teachers to discover the best way for each student.

However, the five-paragraph essay must retain its central role in the English curriculum. It is critical for the development of essential skills and is integral to a student's education.



CHEERS AND JEERS

CHEERS—to the girls' basketball team for defeating Valley Forge.

JEERS—to the 23 minute lunch period!

JEERS—to the heavy testing before Winter vacation.

CHEERS—to 1990!

JEERS—to the Joe Carter trade for a couple of minor leaguers.

JEERS—to the poor heating system of the high school. Students have suffered sub-zero temperatures as a result of misfiring air conditioners and failing heaters.

CHEERS—to the Modern Dance Club members, dancers and the orchestra who performed in the Dance Show Dec. 8.

JEERS—to NBC's Saturday Night Live. It's become thoroughly canned, repetitive and dull. Bad.

Letter from the editor

Shakerite open to all students

After three issues this school year, we have received many letters to the editor. We appreciate your response and have considered your opinions with each subsequent issue. The Shakerite is a vehicle to communicate the news to the school and community. Likewise, the paper is a forum in which staff members and readers can freely express their opinions.

A recent letter to the editor addressed the lack of black membership on the Shakerite. There has been a scarcity of blacks on the paper for a number of years. In order to be a member of the staff one must enroll in the journalism class or participate in a summer journalism workshop. Because the Shakerite has these qualifications, it is not subject to forcible integration. However, we encourage all interested students at the high school to participate in a journalism program and the Shakerite. The Shakerite always needs dedicated reporters of any denomination. It is unfortunate that the racial make-up of the staff does not reflect the racial make-up of the student body. Hopefully, as interest in the paper increases, the Shakerite staff will come to better represent the high school's student population.

We hope you enjoy this issue, and we are looking forward to your comments.

Sincerely,
Sarah Davis and Joshua Levy
Co-Editors-in-Chief

Letters to the editor

Environmental problems addressed, coverage commended

To the editor,

I know you've heard it all before—toxic waste, global warming, rainforest depletion, carbon monoxide poisoning; the list goes on and on. You don't like it no one likes it. The destruction of the environment—the only earth we have.

But there are things that you can and should do. The first thing you can do to begin healing the wounds is to become educated. Learn what problems are facing us today and what the issues of the future are. So now we're back to the first problem of environmental activism; where can you, as concerned Shaker students, go to learn and get involved? The first step is to explore the school, church, temple or any other organization in which you are involved to see if they have a concern group.

If you can't find a group—there is the Cleveland Youth for the Environment. CYTE is a new organization with you, high school students, in mind. It is our goal to unify all of the local high school environmental-conern groups into one working body. CYTE plans to act as a center for information and organization of large events and activities for students from various schools.

CYTE is interested in you. It is a group organized and run by students. If you are a concerned Shaker student and would like to become an active educated member of CYTE, you can contact the outdoor/environment club. This is your chance to do something positive for the planet you live on.

Elissa Whitlow, Hathaway Brown junior

To the editor:

I congratulate you, your reporters and your letter writers on their excellent coverage and thoughts concerning the violence at the Rec. Dept. Halloween dance. You dealt with this event more thoroughly and openly than any other publication I have seen.

My belief is that student ideas and leadership represent our best hope to stop the gang violence and anti-educational behavior that is spreading across this country—and can only hurt everyone in our community if it grows here.

I hope your coverage will trigger student initiatives to take constructive leadership in this matter!

Thomas H. Moss, member-elect, Shaker Hts. Board of Education

THIS ISSUE, A PUBLIC FORUM FOR AND ABOUT THE STUDENTS OF SHAKER HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL, IS THE FOURTH ONE OF THE 1989-1990 SCHOOL YEAR.

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- ✔ CSPA Gold Crown Award Winner 1988
- ✔ NSPA/JEA Regional Pacemaker Award Winner 1989

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SPACE: NASA program of highest priority, leadership and funding required

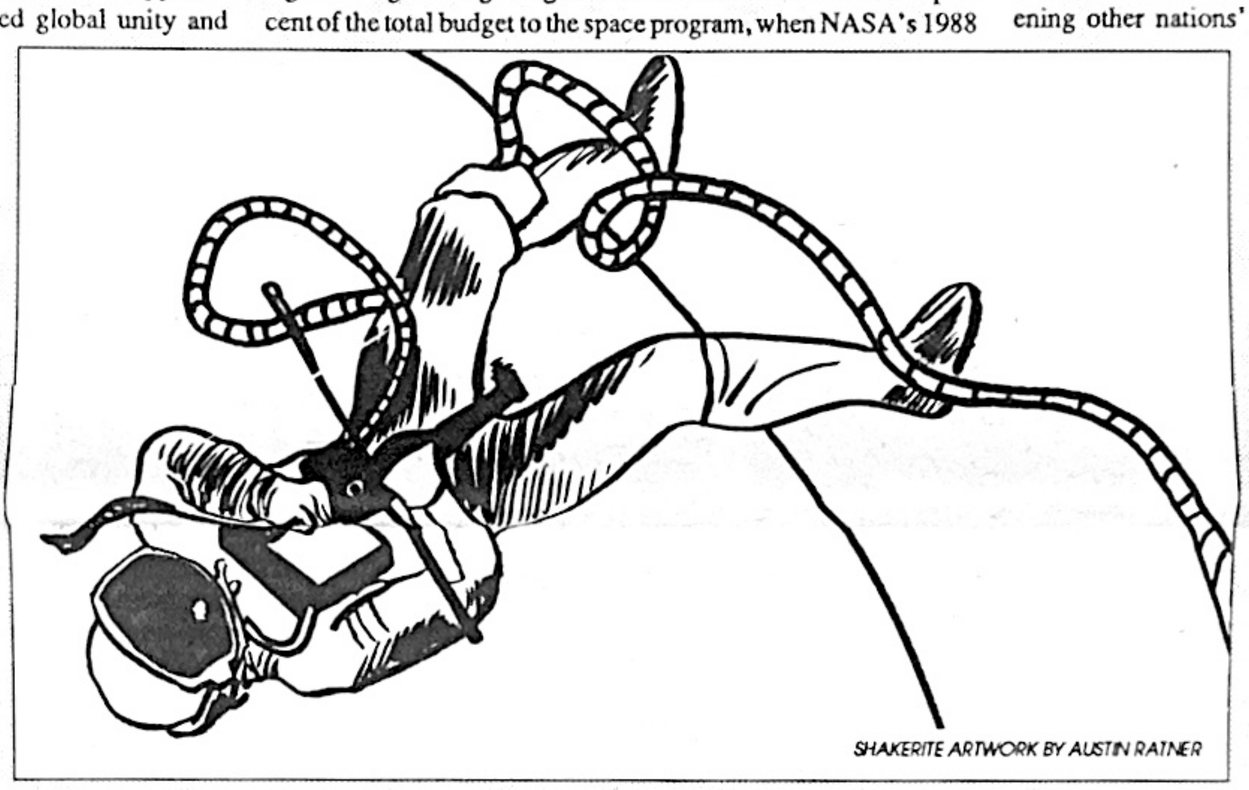
PERSPECTIVE

BY AUSTIN RATNER
Opinion Editor

In a time as pivotal as the present, it is perhaps more important than usual for the U.S. to establish clear policy intentions and priorities. The communist bloc has faltered and Gorbachev has expressed genuine interest in sweeping liberal reform. The economic unification of Europe is only two years away. It is a time of relative political moderation and Western cohesion, when nations aren't entrenched in incompatible and adamant opposition to one another. The U.S. has the opportunity to thrust in the direction of increased global unity and stability, and to remove emphasis on establishment of national security and military deterrence. We have the opportunity to advance in vital policy areas other than national security.

The space program is a policy area which has been severely neglected by Reagan and his successor—the man without a plan—and is incalculably important, not only to the U.S., but to humanity.

In the wake of the deficit, an ineffectual Congress and two hands-off presidents have teamed up to reduce governmental influence in too many sectors. [illegible] defense, our policy-makers have allowed other high-priority programs to bear the bulk of budgetary cuts. I have before written about education as a neglected area. Space rivals it both in priority and neglect—and it costs far less than most of the other programs which also need attention.



SHAKERITE ARTWORK BY AUSTIN RATNER

Reagan began his withdrawal from the space program with an initiative in 1988 to promote serious involvement of private firms in the space program. This, in combination with budget cuts, has done much to disarm the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Congress refused NASA's plan for construction of a manned space station last year and instead voted a feeble $25 million in "startup money" to the small unmanned Industrial Space Facility, designed by a private company, and far less capable than NASA's planned station.

Alex Roland, a former NASA historian, has commented on Reagan's space program in general: "All of the Reagan [space] projects are in jeopardy: first, because of lack of consistent, compelling vision, and second, because of the failure to shepherd them through the bureacracy and Congress." William F. Buckley, Jr., editor of the right wing National Review, suggested during the Reagan years that the Russians were "contriving and executing feats of space wizardry that their poor cousins in America only dream about." He marked 1971 as the beginning of our leadership's retreat from space and saw this trend encouraged under Reagan.

Bush has only allowed Congress and Reagan's relinquishing of governmental responsibility to continue. There have been no signs of augmenting Reagan's contribution of less than one percent of the total budget to the space program, when NASA's 1988 plans required an increase only to around one-and-a half-percent of the total budget (around $15 million out of the total $1 trillion).

We cannot accept this abdication of strong leadership and support, this withdrawal from vital policy areas—especially not in the space program.

The space program's immediate benefits are numerous. Zero gravity and other research in space have already presented us with revolutionary new technologies. Plans for an "Earth Observing System" promise many insights into our planet's ecological functioning as well as possibilities for answers to the threats of the ozone hole and greenhouse effect. And if our current policy-makers insist on bolstering national security and deterrence from war, satellite surveillance is invaluable for checking on enemy stockpiles and military movement. The existence of satellites within the framework of an extensive space program is far more effective in keeping the international peace than a military program on earth or in space.

The Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), part of the current scheme of defensive militarism, is a much weaker concept; being armed against enemy missiles and any potentially offensive space devices, it threatens the existing system of mutually checking satellites; it could never be a 100 percent effective defense against a nuclear assault; it is itself offensive in threatening other nations' potency; SDI has never really neared technical feasibility; and if realistically possible, it would cost far more than a satellite system within the broader framework of a positive space program.

Beyond its technological and subsequent economic value, beyond its preservation of the earth's ecology, and beyond its substantial contribution to national and global security, the space program holds the key to the ultimate goal—the survival of the human race. **Earth's resources, and looking much farther down the road, our solar system, will** not provide for humanity forever. *If we* ***cannot escape our geo- and astro-physi-*** cal doom, then all of the societal progress we have made, the civilization we have built, is for nothing. Human beings have already proven their capacity to understand and control their environment. We must expand on this capacity through experimentation and exploration in space.

An effort so central to the entire population of the earth inevitably unifies all peoples and promotes international cooperation. NASA's space station plans involved help from Canada, Western Europe, Japan and possibly the Soviets.

We must mobilize on the crucial issue of progress in space now, beginning with a lessening of militaristic emphasis and an increasing of funds and leadership in the space program. "Then," as New Republic magazine put it, "break out the Tang."

Hall-pass policy ineffective, detracts

BY ANDREW JORGENSEN
Staff Reporter

Backpack hitched high on your back, both arms heavy with textbooks, you move through the hallways—quick as the wind. You were late to school; now, having gone to your locker, all that is on your mind is getting to class and getting there quickly.

With all deliberate speed you walk straight past the REKAHS monitors, who ignore you completely. You stride to your class down the hall. Full speed ahead!! You reach your classroom! Your hand rests on the doorknob, ready to twist! When suddenly, seemingly from nowhere, you hear:

"Hey Jack! You got a pass?"

From there it's Room 110 for you, a victim of the school's hall pass policy.

Apparently the mandatory hall pass policy is designed to stop two things: people in the hall disrupting classes and people cutting classes just wandering through the hall. Instead, the policy does something else entirely: it causes students, who, though without a pass, are acting responsibly by moving from place to place with deliberate purpose, to be harrassed unnecessarily.

Not all students are in the halls between classes for malicious purposes. Some are simply moving to and from class; some are trying to get books from their lockers; some, on their free periods, are trying to pick things up from the library or the counselors' office. These acts are hardly criminal.

But these students are usually the ones who are harrassed by adult hall monitors. Because of the way the monitors set themselves up, they are easily avoided by the people they are set out to catch. They are situated in hall intersections where they will catch only people actually travelling somewhere. If a student in the hallways is cutting or being disruptive, rarely will he do so in the sight of a hall monitor. Few students who are "disrupting classes" are that brave; few class cutters are that stupid, and many will leave the building.

Those who are not in the halls for a purpose and are not going anywhere tend to stay in one place. People just standing around in one spot won't likely be seen by a hall monitor; it's the people going somewhere that get caught.

Students who are just trying to get from one place to another, on the other hand, rarely go out of their way to avoid hall monitors. They reason that they have no need to; after all, they are moving through the halls with a legitimate purpose. Even so they are more likely to be stopped for a pass.

This is unreasonable—that a policy designed to prevent irresponsible students from affecting the rest of the school instead prevents responsible students from acting responsibly. A well-meaning student should not be forced to carry a pass marking him as responsible; unless a student is acting in an inappropriate way, it should be assumed that he is honorable.

This inequity could be corrected if the school would abolish the hall pass system altogether, and if the monitors would stop expecting wrongdoers to come to them and instead go forth and seek them out. The school could slice the rate of cutting by stepping up the penalties incurred—a call from a computer scares few people.

I have heard some people say that REKAHS is hopelessly backwards, that when someone walks by in the middle of the period the REKAHS members ignore him. But when a REKAHS-person sees someone walking by, he will usually do exactly the right thing—absolutely nothing.

TURN OFF TUNE OUT DROP IN

Divided loyalties

Teens split time between TV, homework

BY KRISTINA GOBEL AND LISA PRUETT
Co-Centerpiece Editor and Staff Reporter

And now for a commercial break. Do these words stir you into action? Do you blindly grab for a pencil so that you can get seven problems done before your favorite show starts again?

Teenagers watch, on average, 26 hours of television each week and, by the time the average student has graduated from high school, he has spent 15,000 hours in front of the television while only spending 11,000 hours in the classroom, according to a recent Nielsen study.

Both television and homework are a part of students' lives and many students combine the two.

"There is not always time to watch television and complete homework separately," sophomore Laska Doucas said. "It is more efficient to merge the two."

Since television demands the students' full attention, both eyes and ears, concentrating on homework assignments can be difficult.

"With all of the noise televisions make and all of the flashes of light that come out of them, I just cannot concentrate," sophomore Ted Folkman said. "When the television is on, my brain is off."

While thinking about quadratic equations and English essays television can be a welcome relief to some students.

"I always stop doing homework to watch 'The Wonder Years,'" sophomore Judi Miller said.

While some students use television as a motivator, other students seem to use it as an excuse to stop doing homework.

"I would rather watch television than do my homework," freshman Shawn Prokesh said.

Many students do their homework while watching television or, more likely, during the commercials and feel that, although the quality of their work is not affected, it may take longer to complete.

> *If a student does his homework with the television on, it becomes a source of distraction and the student cannot fully concentrate on the homework.* -ELLEN KELLY

"Television slows the homework process down because I do homework only during the commercials," sophomore David Bosse said, "but I don't feel it affects the quality."

Many teachers, however, disagree and feel that combining television and homework does lower the quality of the work.

"If a student does his homework with the television on, it becomes a source of distraction and the student cannot fully concentrate on the homework," English teacher Ellen Kelly said.

Other teachers said that, although students may complete the work with the television on, the quality may not be as high.

"Television lowers the student's efficiency, but he can complete the work," German teacher Linda Mayer said.

Television also tends to influence a person's thinking. According to the July, 1988 issue of USA Today, television has proved dangerous to mental health. By the time a child is 18 years old, he will have seen 15,000 murders on television alone. During each prime-time hour of television at least five acts of violence are committed.

Television is the land of fantasy and not the land of reality. According to the 1988 USA Today survey, the more television a person watches, the less creative he is. Television, according to experts, presents everything in a straightforward manner and the student does not have to think about it.

Although teachers sometimes blame television for the poor quality of homework, some students feel that television is not the cause.

"If students did not have television, we would find some other excuse not to do our homework," sophomore Chris Jones said.

We will now return to tonight's program. If you do do your homework during commercials, you can relax for another 10 minutes.

Tabloid TV pollutes journalism

Trash on demand

BY ANTHONY SWERTLOFF
Staff Reporter

Sally in the morning, Oprah, Phil and Geraldo after school and "Current Affair," "Hard Copy" and "Inside Edition" during dinner. According to Newsweek, trash television has "irreversibly muddied the standards of television journalism."

Despite the success of these programs, many students dislike them because of the values they express.

"It's just a bunch of gossip and it has nothing to do with our lives," senior Sean Mee said. "It is all trash."

Others, however, view shows like "Current Affair" and "Inside Edition" as mediums that help the public understand events through re-enactions of rapes, stabbings and shootings.

"The shows are better than the news and they are more interesting," freshman Jason Smith said. "They go in depth and inform the society about what is going on."

The era of trash television began with Phil Donahue, "The King of Talk," 18 years ago. Oprah Winfrey arrived on the scene 15 years later, beginning the war among the talk shows.

In the past few years, other talk show hosts like Geraldo Rivera, Sally Jesse Raphael and Morton Downey Jr. (called "Attilla the Host" by the Washington Times) have appeared.

With the exception of "The Morton Downey Jr. Show," which was taken off the air over the summer, each show enjoys success in the ratings.

The popularity of these shows is attributed to their sensational topics. Subjects such as wives who shoot their husbands, transvestite couples, devil worshipers and 800-pound men and women supply cheap thrills for the viewing audience.

"People like the sensationalism," physical education teacher John Schwartz said. "These shows charge people up."

Others see these shows as alternatives for the tabloid newspapers and magazines.

"People want to hear gossip, like what is in Star Magazine," senior Cara Baynard said. "I don't think people take it seriously, though."

Some students believe that these types of programs are unnecessary for television, but should not be censored.

"The shows should not be banned because of freedom of speech," freshman Olga Chwezinska said.

Remaining on the air, however, does not mean that the talk shows and programs such as "Inside Edition" are untouched by critics. Geraldo has often been criticized for exaggerating and distorting the news.

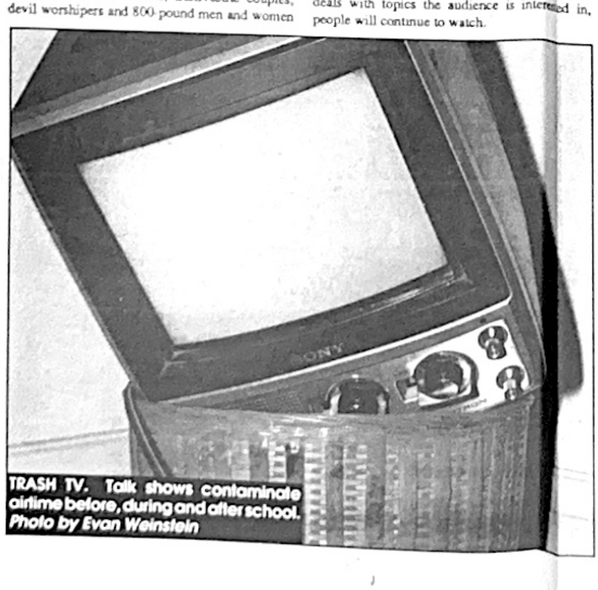
In addition to questionable material, "trash television" brings actual violence to the set.

In November, 1988, a fight errupted during the taping of Geraldo's "Teen Hatemongers" episode, which dealt with skinheads. Millions of viewers saw Geraldo hit in the nose by a flying chair.

Some students said that events like the chair should occur more often.

"I believe all the hosts should be hit by chairs," sophomore Ken Mitsumoto said. "One was not enough."

As long as trash television dominates the major networks afternoon and early evening air time, and deals with topics the audience is interested in, people will continue to watch.



TRASH TV. Talk shows contaminate airtime before, during and after school. Photo by Evan Weinstein

HEH HEH HEH
YOU MAKE ME LAUGH!
WORSHIP ME! WORSHIP ME LIKE A GOD!
YOU'RE NOTHING BUT AN INSECT, WORM!
LOOK AT ME.... PERFECT IN EVERY WAY!

Shakerite artwork by Oliver Dotzell

Public access dements TV

COMMENTARY

BY JEREMY KAHN AND MARSHALL LEVIN
Staff Reporters

Forgotten somewhere between the Playboy Channel and static lurks Viacom Cablevision's channel 35, public access cable television. This outstanding institution, committed to the preservation of the Constitution and freedom of speech, is home to such historical television programs such as "The Asylum," "Focus on the Heights" and "Front Porch Polka Music and Dancing" (the original MTV).

Any fan of Saturday Night Live's "Wayne's World" understands the essence of public access television, since the skit makes light of the medium by depicting two guys in front of a television camera in their basement. But, this farce is not too far from the truth.

Public access cable television exists, well, because it has to. Under the First Amendment and the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984, Viacom Cablevision is required to provide a public forum, a channel where members of the community can express their views on any subject or issue that they choose. Under broad guidelines of the Cable Act, shows produced by members of the Ku Klux Klan and many other programs which the general public might find objectionable can get air time.

The cable service may not exercise any editorial control over the content of the program, according to section 611(e) of the Cable Act. However, according to Bruce Bohner, public access coordinator of Viacom, programs will be subject to additional qualifications.

"The program will be screened. It must be in the community interest; it has to relate to the community," Bohner said. This statement appears to be contradictory to federal law, which states that private citizens are guaranteed a channel on which they are free to express their opinions free of any form of censorship.

Screening, however, does not account for the many time slots filled by "The Asylum," a show in which scenes from horror movies are repeatedly displayed while the viewer is yelled at frantically by a ventriloquist's dummy which claims to have psycho-therapeutic powers.

"It did not leave much of an impression on me. I thought it was weird but kind of interesting," said freshman Josh Harris, who has watched "The Asylum" several times.

The franchise agreement between the city of Shaker Heights and Viacom Cablevision specifies regulations about the programming. It is easy for almost any member of the community to produce a show since it requires that the cable service provide production facilities free of charge.

Despite the fact that the production facilities are free, some restrictions still apply.

"You must be 18 years of age and a resident of our service area," Bohner said. "You must then fill out the appropriate forms, such as a contract, application and rule sheet. If they are approved, you will be given either a half hour or one hour time block."

Although the programs featured on public access television may not be of interest to everyone (or anyone, for that matter), they do allow citizens to exercise their freedom of speech.

Besides "The Asylum" (the show with the dummy), some of the other programs include "BodyBeats," "Jewish Video Magazine" and "Shaker Life." These programs range in interest level from that of a freak show to that of watching a blade of grass grow without time lapse photography. Produced by amateurs, this accounts for the quality photography used (no, the image is not blurry because you are developing a stigmatism).

None of these programs appeals to a broad enough audience to be aired on any channel besides public access. When you want to see television gone awry in the name of freedom of speech, tune into Viacom's public access channel 35.

SHAKERITE

WINTER REELS

Rent holiday cheer

Videos contribute spirit, tradition

BY MOLLY SHAFER
Staff Reporter

Winter break can bring a lot of stress, homework, final worries and snow shoveling. If you are tired of all the work, sit back, relax and rent a movie.

Many popular winter television specials have become video movies for the winter season. "Rudolf the Red Nosed Reindeer" and "Frosty the Snowman" are now available for home audiences.

Rudolf's story is a classic tale of peer pressure, judging someone by their looks and hazing. After being excluded from all the reindeer games because of his shiny red nose, Santa Claus gives him the chance to prove himself to the other reindeer. Rudolf does not let them down.

Frosty's legacy is also widely loved. Frosty, who comes to life when an evil magician's hat lands on his head, starts to melt and has to be taken up to the north pole. While Frosty is there, he encounters the magician. Determined to retrieve his hat, the magician locks Frosty in a greenhouse where he promptly begins to melt. I still cry every time I watch Frosty. I hate it when he melts. Never fear, because once again, Santa Claus shows up to save the day.

One of the most popular videos, according to Erol's Video Store manager Tracy Rubins is "A Christmas Carol." Over the years, the various movie versions of Charles Dickens' novel have fast become holiday traditions. Whether it is a Disney animation starring Donald Duck, or the original starring George C. Scott as Ebeneezer Scrooge, Scrooge's attempt to keep his soul from being damned to eternal hell never fails to give me the chills and encourages me to take a hard look at my life and my ways.

"Scrooged," the parody of "A Christmas Carol," is now on available on video. "Scrooged" stars Bill Murray as a modern day miser. Buster Poindexter and Carol Cane also star as the ghosts of Christmas past and present, respectively. It is a great movie for all those who are tired of all the traditional classics.

The video version of the ballet "The Nutcracker" is still a favorite of many. A young girl's Christmas gift results in a magical journey. Another popular selection, according to Rubins, is "It's a Wonderful Life," starring James Stewart and Donna Reed. A young man with aspirations of traveling around the world gets stuck with the family savings and loan. Thoughts of suicide run through his head when the business goes under, so an angel is sent to help him. Even though the color version is not as good as the original black and white, the movie is entertaining and full of holiday spirit.

These are not all of the selections available around holiday time, but they are among the best. If you do get sick of the holidays and the idea of one more ghost of Christmas past makes you want to retch, just rent "Ghostbusters" and forget about it.

Movies add excitement

Films help students learn, sleep

BY SHERI SPITZ
Spotlight Editor

In the front of the classroom sits a TV and an attached VCR. Immediately the room buzzes with excitement. Students rush to the teacher, hysterically begging for confirmation.

"Are we watching a movie?" they question, half-afraid the answer will be no. The teacher answers,"yes," and the relieved students rush off happily to tell their friends.

Some students actually look forward to the knowledge they will gain from the movie; most just enjoy the shift in routine.

"Basically, I like [watching the movies]," junior Clark Whitley said. "It's a break from the grindstone and from grudging out answers."

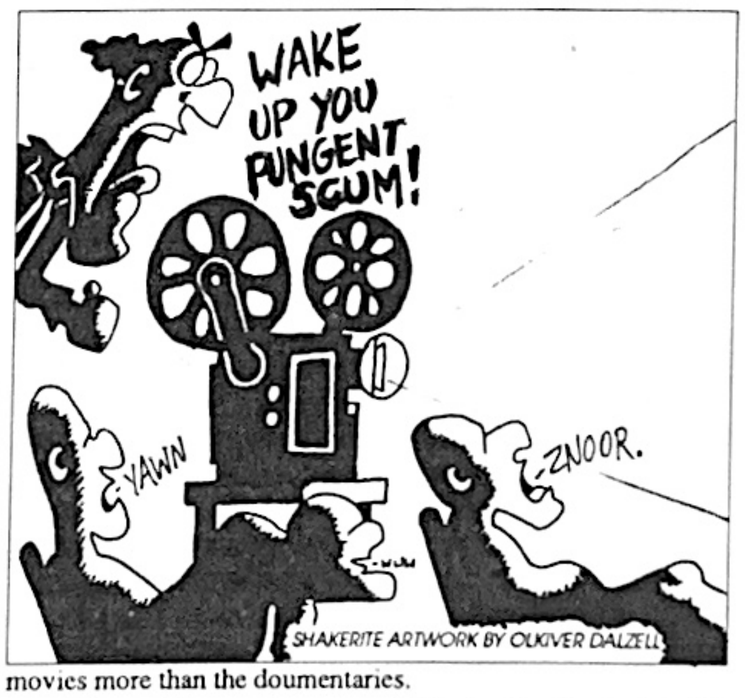
Math teacher Ovella McIntyre, who shows her classes "Batman" and "Stand and Deliver" agrees.

"I'm showing [Batman] as a treat for [the students] and because of the shape of the Batmobile," McIntyre said. "And what a lot of people miss is the maze at the beginning. That's all part of problem solving."

Some students use the movies as a chance to catch up on a little rest and relaxation.

"Most are very boring and I enjoy major z's during them," junior Chuck Balasz said.

Students seem to pay attention and enjoy the cinema type movies more than the doumentaries.



"Some of the movies are good," junior Joe Reed said. "In history we just watched "Little Big Man" and that was good, but science movies of the atom are very boring."

The movies are not just breaks from lecturing for the teachers. Teachers say they use them to help the students learn.

"I use [movies] to compliment the books we read in class and to illustrate the differences in these two forms," said English teacher Robert Hanson.

"It's like that old saying, 'A picture is worth a thousand words," social studies teacher Charles Longo said.

Longo shows his Global Studies classes "All Quiet on the Western Front," and "Ghandi."

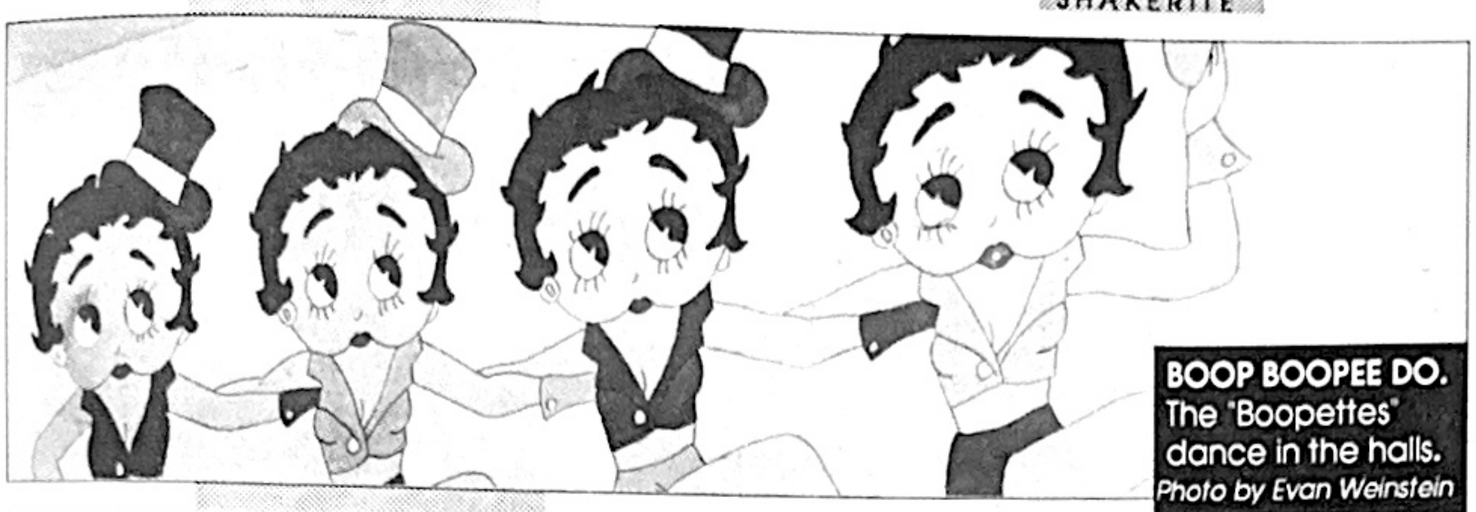
"'All Quiet on the Western Front' really shows the horrors of war from an enemy perspective and shows that everyone suffers in war," Longo said. "There isn't just one good side and one bad side."

Some teachers think that the movies enable students to gain a better understanding of the material they teach in class.

"The students enjoyed the movies, and in addition they derived linguistic and cultural benefits from having some of the Spanish world brought into their classroom in a medium they enjoy watching," said Foreign Language department head Norma Guice.

However, some teachers do not think movies help very much. Social studies teacher Rona Pessel showed her US history classes "The Alamo" with John Wayne this year and was not happy with the results.

"I showed 'The Alamo' so the students would not get the Texas War for Independence mixed up with the Mexican-American War," Pessel said. "It didn't work."



BOOP BOOPEE DO. The "Boopettes" dance in the halls. *Photo by Evan Weinstein*

WALL ART

COMMENTARY

BY LESLIE ROSEWATER
Staff Reporter

After spending most of my high school day trapped in a stuffy classroom, I usually run out of class without looking at the walls. The other day, I decided to examine my surroundings— it's pretty sad if you've spent almost three years in a building and can't describe it.

I looked at the hallways and discovered the paintings that cover the school walls. Approaching the cafeteria, I spied an ominous looking hamburger. Painted by Moira Nash in 1980, it is probably the least appetizing painting of food that I have ever seen. Maybe this is a hint of the quality of food that lingers behind the closed doors of the cafeteria. The saddest thing is that this painting is dedicated to someone, and I feel for that person.

Continuing the journey, a bunch of "Boopettes," painted by alumni Kim Richmond and Judy Wohl caught my eye, smiling at me as I passed by. The painting itself represents four close friends and was painted in 1985.

The murals in the halls are the result of students' senior projects. Science teacher John Schutter approves senior projects. Schutter, who has been approving students' artwork for 17 years, said initial paintings were ones such as the shark above the drinking fountain on the second floor.

"Kids usually underestimate how much time it takes," Schutter said. He added that many artists end up spending late nights in the hallowed hallways to finish the paintings.

Although it needs touching up, Schutter especially likes the WMMS Buzzard painted near the science wing on the first floor, along with Felix Lee's dragon painting. Schutter believes that students have gained something from their artwork and said that students have left their mark on the school.

Personally, my favorite is Alex Henry's painting, which is also the newest painting in the school. Henry painted a three-dimensional skateboarder which almost comes to life and makes me hate skateboarders a bit less.

So, if you happen to pass by a couple of lips in the hallway and wonder what the painter meant to say, remember that someone had to approve it.

SCALING THE WALLS. Felix Lee painted this chinese dragon for senior project. *Photo by Evan Weinstein*

Alaskan adjusts to local climate

BY SARAH STEWART
Staff Reporter

Imagine a world of mountain ranges, black bears and six month winters. This is the world of Alaska; a world which was home to sophomore Chris Hunter.

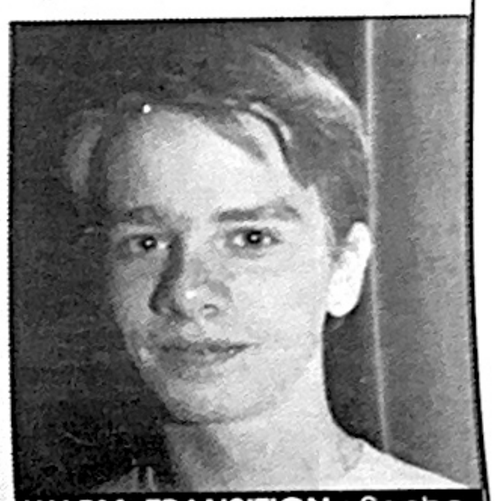
Quite different from the Cleveland area, Hunter described Anchorage as a city where it is not uncommon for Alaskan bull moose to wander into town in search of food. Wolves, lynx and eagles inhabit the area's national parks. Hunter said that he especially missed the magnificence of the bald eagle.

"They are so beautiful to watch in flight. They rarely flap their wings; they circle," said Hunter.

When animals are not in view, snow certainly is in Alaska. Due to the long cold winters of Alaska, he does not find Cleveland winters severe.

"It is a great feeling to be cold," Hunter said. "I guess I have a greater tolerance to cold than heat."

According to Hunter, the Alaskans are more tolerant of differences among people than most Clevelanders. He feels that the Alaskans are more willing to help their fellowman. "In Alaska it is what is good for everybody instead of accelerating some people to the top and leaving others at the bottom," Hunter said.



WARM TRANSITION. Sophomore Chris Hunter moved here from Anchorage, Alaska, two years ago. *Photo by Hallie Watson*

While Hunter recognizes some of the discrepancies between the Alaskan way of life and that of a Clevelander, he does not find one lifestyle superior. Hunter said that his exposure to two different areas has helped his view of people broaden.

"I was satisfied up there, but moving here has done me a lot of good as a person," Hunter said, "Cleveland is so different and I have seen two ends of the spectrum."

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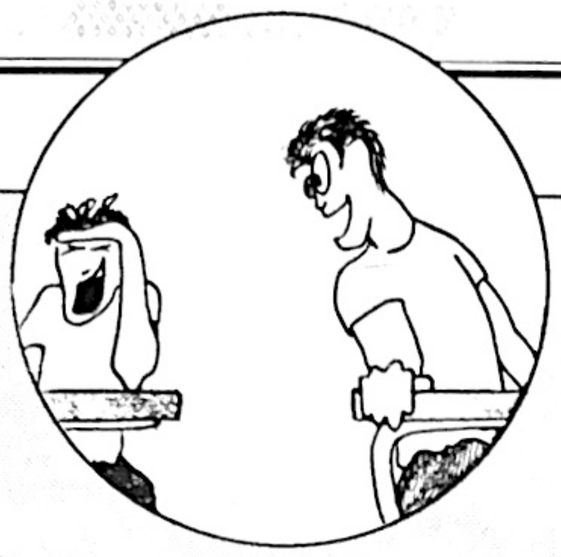


> *I don't think it is any huge conflict between the teacher and the kid, or the urge to feel superior or rebel against authority. It is just another good joke."*
>
> –ANONYMOUS SENIOR

Class jesters lighten up school day routine

BY KATHRYN SCHULZ
Staff Reporter

Thwack!

There is a solid splat as a juicy spitball hurtles into the blackboard. A paper airplane flies through the air and nose dives into the substitute's hair. A student sticks out his leg, and his innocent victim suddenly sprawls across the floor.

In the three-ring circus of high school, the spotlight often focuses on one particularly mischievous fellow— the class clown.

"It all depends on how you define clown," social studies teacher Jim Burry said. "You can have students who are perceptive, who add to the class and who know how much is too much. But a person just seeking attention can detract from the class."

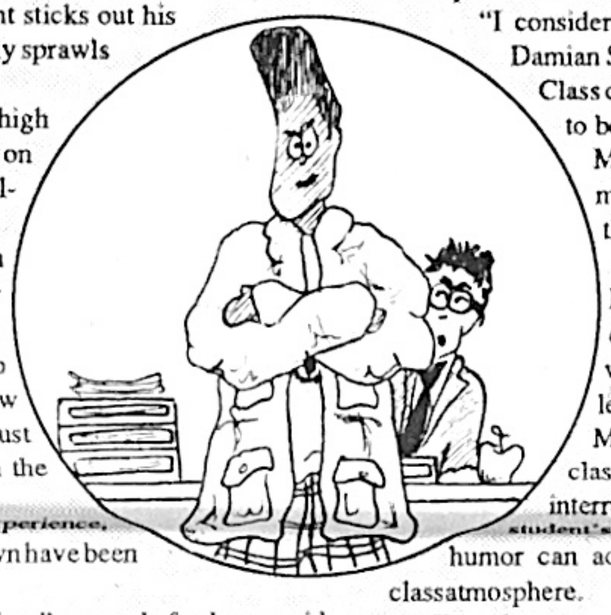
Burry also added that, in his experience, most of the class clowns he has known have been male.

"Guys say what they are thinking," one male freshman said in response to Burry's comment. "They have got more guts, and they want to make people laugh."

The desire to make people laugh is probably the chief motivation behind the class clown's routine. Then again, maybe it is more the flash of inspiratioN at that moment when the perfect line or joke has to be spoken. Sophomore Michelle Stone felt that the class clown's main desire is for attention and recognition.

"Let's not get too serious here," said one senior girl. "That is not what clowns are all about. I have been around for a while and I have seen it all. I don't think it is any huge conflict between the teacher and the kid or the urge to feel superior or rebel against authority. It is just another good joke."

Unfortunately for some unhappy students, a teacher's definition of a good joke and the joker's may be slightly out of synch, according to some students. While the well-timed line, story, or comment may provoke the desired laugh or groan, the student is always taking a risk. If you finally have a chance to slip in that sick joke on the morning your math teacher's puppy died, some students said that you might find yourself reading joke books in Saturday school.



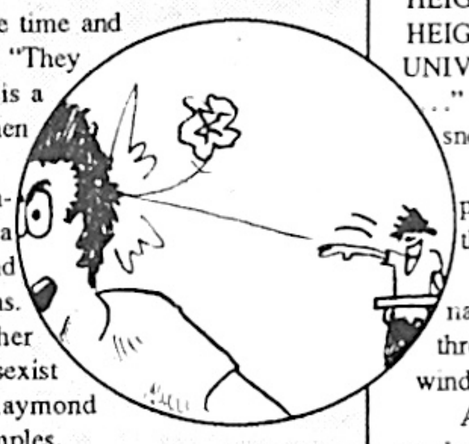
"I consider myself a class joker," said sophomore Damian Short. "I add humor. I make people laugh. Class clowns take up more time, and usually have to be told when to stop."

Math teacher Craig Maxwell agrees that most class clowns just take up the class's time.

"They do not help anything," Maxwell said. "It is too constant— always chatter, chatter, chatter. They have to learn when to turn it off. But they usually don't learn."

Many students agreed that, in moderation, class clowns are beneficial. While talking can interrupt a teacher's train of thought, break a student's concentration or waste class time, a little humor can add levity to a lecture and lighten up a classatmosphere.

"They have an appropriate time and place," senior Jay Bodzin said. "They have to use discretion. There is a time to be serious and a time when jokes are appropriate."



Several students also commented that often clowning is a two-way street with teachers and students exchanging witticisms. Students cited biology teacher Kenneth Culek's notorious sexist jokes, and math teacher Raymond Skitzki's famous insults as examples.

" We're all stuck here eight hours a day, five days a week, teachers too," a female junior said. "Why not laugh a little?"

Administrative policy flaky

BY MARSHALL LEVIN
Staff Reporter

COMMENTARY

Put on your thinking cap and remember when you were a little kid. Way back, about third grade. Remember how much you loved playing in the snow? Sure you do.

Remember how much fun it was building snowmen or flying down a hill on your newly waxed sled? Good, traditional, moral American things to do.

Sadly, we will no longer see this truly American tradition. The current administration is against fun. Plain and simple.

The administration has denied the possibility for this great American tradition to take place. Send the hats and mittens off to charity; there will be no more fun in Shaker.

We all miss snow days. Remember those days when we would wake up, run downstairs and turn on the TV. We didn't care about the Flintstones or the Jetsons. The only thing on our mind was the line of words scrolling across the bottom of the screen. Ah, the good old days, when the kind, compassionate administrators would give us a day off. But today that search is futile. Now I don't even bother to watch; I just set out for school like always. It seems as if all the other schools are closed; their administrators love them.

Too often this is the case: ". . . NEWSCENTER 8 WJW UPDATE . . . SCHOOL CLOSINGS . . . BEACHWOOD, BEDFORD, CHAGRIN FALLS, CLEVELAND, CLEVELAND HEIGHTS, FAIRVIEW PARK, GARFIELD HEIGHTS, HAWKEN SCHOOL, LAKEWOOD, MAPLE HEIGHTS, PARMA, ST. IGNATIUS, UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, UNIVERSITY SCHOOL . . . NEWSCENTER 8 WJW UPDATE . . ." You switch off the TV in disgust. "How come we never get snow days? All the other schools get snow days! It's not fair!"

But that's not the worst of it. As you step outside, 20 cars pass your front door. All the Beachwood kids have piled into their mothers' cars.

"Shaker kids have to go to school!" they shout. "Nah, nah, nah! Shaker kids have to go to school!" You manage to throw a few good snowballs at them as they quickly roll up the windows.

A recent note from the administration to the parents and students stated "Closing schools due to weather should be as rare as it is in the business community." Come on, let us kids have some fun!

Shakerite artwork by Coleman Buraitt

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Boys hoops top LEL; swimming off to strong start

KILLING CARDINALS

After starting the season at 3-1, the boys basketball team expects to contend with Shaw and Cleveland Hts. for the LEL title.

The team began the season with a 73-64 victory over Cleveland Central Catholic, but fell to Elyria by a score of 68-63 in its second contest. The Red Raider's first LEL competition was Dec. 1 against Lakewood, when they beat the Rangers 65-48.

"We'll contend in the LEL," head coach Bob Wonson said. "I'm sure we'll improve. The Elyria game was a good test and good preparation for league games because of their talent and vocal crowd."

The team pulled together for a 76-74 overtime victory over Shaw. Shaw sent the game into overtime after a freak turnover gave them the ball- a Shaker inbound pass went into the rafters. With three seconds remaining in overtime, junior Doug Underwood put Shaker ahead with a 12 foot jumper.

According to Wonson, the team has a balanced scoring attack with many players who can score points.

"Our execution had been poor because we were not used to playing with each other," senior player Mike Matthews said. "Our teamwork got better as the season progressed, and we got to know each other better.

Shaker's next game is against Normandy on Dec.15. The team's next home game is Dec. 23 against Heights at 10 am.

MAKING A SPLASH

Even a two and a half hour strenuous workout, the day before a meet, could not stop the boys swim team as it swam to victory, during its first two dual meets against Brush and Berea.

During the Dec. 8 meet against Mentor the team swam its way to 107-64 victory. The only events the team did not win were the 100m breaststroke and the 400m relay.

The next big competition the team will participate in will be at Cleveland State on University Dec. 16.

With the help of computerized workouts that are linked to the Olympic Training Center in Colorado, the Red Raiders are hoping to place in the top 10 in districts and states.

"Our goal is to send a relay team and the top swimmers to the state meet," senior co-captain Doug Forsberg said.

AROUND THE OVAL

STRONG TRADITION

Judging from its strong start, the girls swim team has no intentions of breaking its winning tradition.

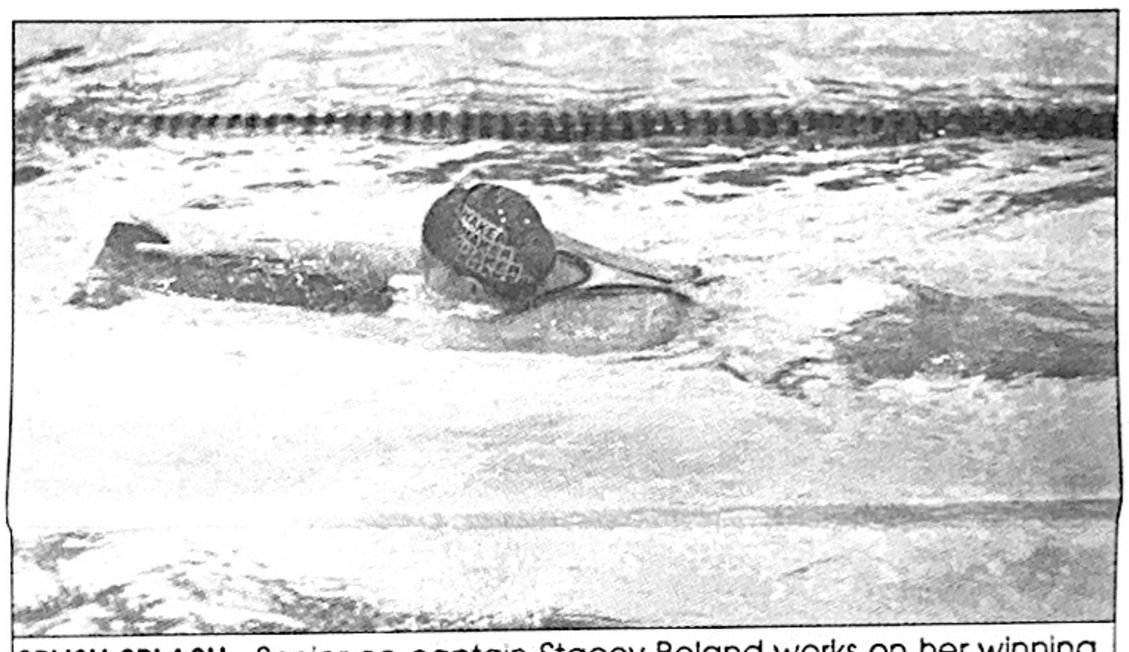
The team is a strong contender for the state championship, senior co-captain Stacey Boland said.

Several swimmers attribute the team's success to the work put into practices.

"We put in a lot of time and effort, but in the end, it's worth it," sophomore swimmer Whitney Vail said.

According to Boland, now that the boys and girls teams are practicing together, there is more competition since the girls are trying to beat the boys.

"Practices are a lot more fun now," senior swimmer Stephanie Sexton said.



SPLISH SPLASH. Senior co-captain Stacey Boland works on her winning stroke during a recent practice. *Photo by Evan Weinstein*

Raider Records

Boys Basketball	3-1
Girls Basketball	2-4
Hockey	3-3
Boys Swimming	3-0
Girls Swimming	3-0
Wrestling	4-0

MENACING MATSMEN

Expectations are high for this year's varsity wrestling team.

The team is coached by middle school teacher David Sedmak and high school teacher John Schwartz and led by senior captains Glen Kohner, Tony Taylor, Parker Adriane and junior William Knight.

"Our biggest asset is a winning attitude," sophomore wrestler Peter Nathanson said. "Everyone sets a goal to win and strives to achieve it."

Seniors Josh Klein, Glen Kohner, Twan Bounds, Nathan Kittle, Tony Taylor and Major Harrison along with junior William Knight and sophomore Peter Nathanson all pinned their opponents to lead the team to a 55-10 win over Benedictine.

On Dec. 9, the team swept through the Brush Quadrangular with three consecutive wins.

-COMPILED FROM STAFF REPORTS-

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THE SHAKERITE STAFF

Varsity sports lack creativity

Students need new teams and clubs to relieve boredom

THE SPORTS COLUMN

BY BRIAN RESNIK AND STACY SCHLEIN
Co-Sports Editors

Every day it's the same old story. The boys basketball team wins again and the swim teams break some sort of record. Boring.

Think about it. How many times do we need to hear the same story about the same teams? Granted, every once in a while something new and exciting happens. For example, the girls basketball team recently won two games. Unfortunately, occasions like these are rare.

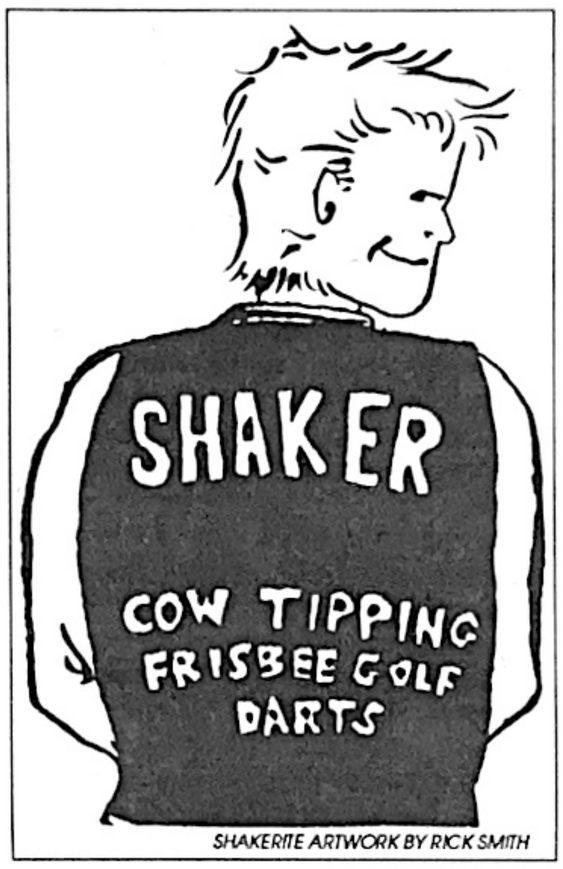
High school sports would be more exciting if we could have a new system that introduces a different intramural sport each year.

A great form of exercise is roller-skating. Incorporating this idea with football, we could have roller-derbies during the fall season. Imagine 40 people skating around the track knocking each other over.

Of course, not everyone is interested in skating around in circles, but it would not matter because there would be a different sport next year. Luging would be a great way to cure boredom, especially during those chilly winter months. It would be fairly simple to set up. All we need to do is pack snow down on the stadium stairs and put a cushion at the end. Voila! The greatest luge course in the city of Cleveland.

It is unthinkable to forget the spring activities. Baseball is alright if you like the confinement of the four bases, but frisbee golf allows an athlete to expand his or her horizons. The object of the game is simple. Just throw the frisbee into specific containers that are located at strategic positions along the course. Southerly Park is the most reasonable place to play. As long as the park remains across from Woodbury it would be the ideal spot.

Of course all these ideas are ridiculous, but many new clubs can be formed that are not quite as radical. How about an old fashioned cow-tipping team? A cow could be purchased by the club, and the biggest people in the school could get together to participate. The object is to charge the cow and knock it over. Perhaps this could be good off-season practice for our linemen. Having a spare cow around could also lead to a cow chip throwing team and fresh cafeteria milk.



SHAKERITE ARTWORK BY RICK SMITH

Along those same lines, the equestrian club could become a rodeo team. Our cow's baby would be in the calf roping event. Hog tying would be yet another event.

For those of you who are not in favor of animal cruelty, how about some darts? A dart team would be perfect for students to concentrate on something other than schoolwork. Imagine a letter jacket that said "Shaker Darts." There is a certain air of pride in that. And darts is just as much a sport as golf.

These sports are great-if your school has a budget for a cow. This is unlikely though. Shaker does, however, have an ideal sport right under their nose. Why not eliminate parking around the oval, and turn it in to an auto racing track? After all, when was the last time that a high school student did not speed around the circle? We could institute the Raider 500 and import all kinds of racing greats.

It is amazing to think of all of the possibilities for out of the ordinary sports activities we could have on our very own school grounds. With a little creativity and a lot of new ideas, the school year could become more enjoyable.

Girls steal two

BY JEFF EPSTEIN
Staff Reporter

After beginning the season with a disappointing 0-4 record, the girls basketball team was "off to a shaky start," according to senior co-captain Jocelyn Dorsey.

However, two rare victories for the Red Raiders, a 46-44 defeat of LEL foe Valley Forge and a 41-35 upset of Garfield Hts. have shed light on an otherwise gloomy season. Both games were won on the road.

"This is a trend that started at the Lakewood game (Dec. 2)," head coach Dennis Hogue said. "They blew us out in the first period, but we played well the rest of the game. I think that they are finding out that they are a better team than they think."

"They've been dumped on and they've been ridiculed," Hogue said. "The girls should be commended for their hard work and dedication."

The team has lost to Kenston, Eastlake North Regina and Lakewood. The next home game is Dec. 16 against Shaw.

According to Hogue, these victories give the seniors three high school victories.

Several team members agree that there is some improvement this season.

"We look better than last year," said junior Meredith Turner.

Hogue is also positive about the player's reaction to the new coaching system, and he credits them for their hard work and dedication.

"The girl's have responded very, very well to the new coaching," Hogue said. "We might be able to steal a couple."

The team said that they would appreciate more fans at home games, although there are no bleachers for fans in the north gym.

HE SCORES! Alex Gordon scores a goal against North Olmsted as Bryan Heydeges looks on. Shaker won, 1-0.
photo by Annette Croom

Hockey team shoots for respectability

BY ERIK BOLAND AND NATHAN WISNESKI
Staff Reporters

The Red Raider hockey team has taken a turn towards respectability after a not so spectacular 1988-89 campaign. They are 4-2 with victories over Rocky River, St. Joseph, Lakewood, North Olmsted and losses to University School (U.S.) and Padua.

The U.S. and St. Joseph games may have been an indication of how competitive the Red-East Division is going to be this year. Shaker out played St. Joseph 6-5 in overtime and lost to U.S. 3-2 in a closely fought game, according to players.

"There is a lot of parity in the league this year and there will be a lot of close games," head coach Mike Bartley, Woodbury teacher said.

The team's transformation into a legitimate contender this year can be attributed to many factors. The Red Raiders gained a lot of experience last year as they have 17 returning players, 12 of whom are juniors. The addition of freshmen Alex Gordon, Chris Brown and Chris Lockrem has also been a benefit.

"We are definitely playing better as a team due to our experience and the addition of the freshman," Bartley said.

According to several team members, the 6-15 record from last season resulted from not playing each game to win.

"The attitude on the team has also changed from last year," junior Chuck Balasz said. "This year we have high expectations. We're mentally prepared to win instead of just going out and playing."

The loss to Padua, a 6-5 defeat, was a moral victory for Shaker since Padua traditionally has an outstanding team, recently winning the state championship. The game also gave Brown playing experience as goalie against a top team.

The loss to U.S. can be attributed to a lack of ability to score on power play goals according to junior player Chris Butler.

A power play occers when one team has a player out in the penalty box.

"They really aren't a better team," said junior goalie Brian Frerichs. "We didn't play as well as we could have. We also didn't convert power play goals."

The team received support from Frerichs in the 6-1 victory over North Olmsted. Frerichs saved 25 of 26 shots on goal.

On Dec. 10, the squad lost a non-divisional game against Heights, 10-5. The bright spot was the Red Raider offense. A gordon slap shot in the third period gave him a hat trick and junior Brandt Butze scored two goals.

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